

Specification Amendments

Replace the paragraph between lines 1-4 on page 4 with the following:

--In accordance with a further feature of the invention, dedicated rotary valves are ~~provide~~ provided and include a first rotary valve connected to the first suction chamber and a second rotary valve connected to the second suction chamber.--

Replace the paragraph between lines 1-10 on page 7 with the following:

-- The sheet stack 8 lies on a stack plate 10 which can be raised under control. The removal of the sheets 7 takes place from the top of the sheet stack 8 by a suction head 18, as it is known, which inter alia has a number of lifting and dragging suction ~~heads~~ heads 19, 21 to separate the sheets 7. Furthermore, blowing devices 22 for loosening the top sheet layers and sensing elements 23 for tracking the stack are provided. In order to align the sheet stack 8, in particular the top sheets 7 of the sheet stack 8, a number of side and rear stops are provided.--

Replace the paragraph between line 12 on page 7 and line 2 on page 8 with the following:

--The lifting suction ~~heads~~ heads 19 are configured as spring-action suction heads, as they are known, i.e. the volume of a first suction chamber 26 is changed when the first suction chamber 26 is subjected to vacuum and at the same time a suction nozzle 27 is covered by the sheet 7 to be separated, the change in volume causing the suction nozzle 27 and thus the sheet 7 to be raised (Fig. 2). The suction nozzle 27 is disposed at the end of a cylindrical body 28 that is guided on a cylindrical tube 29 of a spring-action suction head housing 31. Here, the tube 29 and suction nozzle 27 and the sheet 7 form the first suction chamber 26. At the end remote from the suction nozzle 27, the cylinder body 28 has an outer collar 32 which, configured as a piston, closes off a cylindrical second suction chamber 33 which surrounds the first suction chamber 26 coaxially. Disposed in the outer collar 32 are a number of through openings, or at least one through opening 36, which each have a non-return valve 37.--

Replace the paragraph between lines 4-10 on page 8 with the following:

--An adjustable closing element 39 is disposed in a bore 38 that is axially parallel to both the first suction chamber 26 and the second suction chamber 33. The bore 38 is connected to the second suction chamber 33 by a number of openings 41 disposed in the axial direction, or by a longitudinal slot. It is possible to set the length of the bore or cross-flow channel 38[[; 41]] by adjusting the closing element 39.--

Replace the abstract of the disclosure with the following:

--In a spring-action suction head for separating sheets from a sheet stack, ~~provision is made for~~ a first suction chamber, which can be subjected to vacuum is provided [[,]] for lifting the sheet. The first suction chamber is [[to be]] surrounded coaxially by a second suction chamber, which can be subjected to vacuum, for holding and lowering the spring-action suction head in a controlled manner.--